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I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any attachment thereto, is being transmitted to Group Art Unit 2883 of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to the attention of Examiner Eric K. Wong via facsimile transmission to 703-872-9306 for regular communications on the date indicated below.

Patricia L. Mesuch

Date of Signature

**PATENT - Expedited Procedure
Requested Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

McDonald et al.

Serial No.: 10/659,666

Filed: September 10, 2003

For: FIBER OPTIC PLUG AND
RECEPTACLE ASSEMBLY

Group Art Unit: 2883

Examiner: WONG, E.K.

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****DEC 10 2004****VIA FACSIMILE: 703-872-9306****Group Art Unit: 2874****Examiner: Eric K. Wong****PAGES: 7**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**FORMAL AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Dear Sir:

In response to the FINAL Office Action mailed September 9, 2004, the time for response being extended one (1) month by the petition and fee submitted concurrently herewith, kindly reconsider and reexamine the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.